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All persons are by nature free and independent, and have certain natural and unalienable rights, among which are those of enjoying and defending life and liberty, of acquiring, possessing, and protecting property, and of pursuing and obtaining safety and happiness.

-- Article 1, Section 1, New Jersey State Constitution

Islam a National Security Threat

By Brian T. Kennedy

We face three national security threats, from Islam, China and Russia.

Let me begin with Islam. We were assured that Islam was a religion of peace. President Bush said in October 2001, just a month after the September 11 attacks on the Twin Towers and the Pentagon: "Islam is a vibrant faith.... We honor its traditions. Our enemy does not. Our enemy doesn't follow the great traditions of Islam. They've hijacked a great religion." But unfortunately Mr. Bush was trying to understand Islam as we would like it to be rather than how countless devout Muslims understand it.

Islam is built around a belief in God or Allah, but it is equally a political ideology based on the Koran and the teachings of its founder Mohammad. Whereas Christianity teaches that we should render unto Caesar what is Caesar's and unto God what is God's – allowing for a non-theocratic political tradition to develop, culminating in the principles of civil and religious liberty in the American founding – Islam teaches that to disagree with or even reinterpret the Koran's 6000 odd verses, organized into 114 chapters or Suras and dealing as fully with law and politics as with matters of faith, is punishable by death.

Islamic authorities of all major branches of Islam hold that the parts written last override the others. This so-called theory of abrogation means that the ruling parts of the Koran are Suras 9 and 5, which cancel the verses often cited as proof of Islam's peacefulness that were written before Mohammad went to Medina in 622 A.D.

Sura 9, verse 5 reads: "Fight and slay the unbelievers wherever ye find them, and lie in wait for them in every stratagem of war. But if they repent, and establish regular prayers and practice regular charity, then open the way for them...."

Sura 9, verse 5 reads: "Fight those who believe not in Allah nor the Last Day, nor hold that forbidden which hath been forbidden by Allah and His Apostle, nor acknowledge the religion of truth, even if they are of the people of the book [Jews and Christians], until they pay the jizya [tax] with willing submission, and feel themselves subdued."

Sura 5, verse 51 read: "Oh ye who believe! Take not the Jews and the Christians for your friends and protectors; they are but friends and protectors to each other. And he amongst you that turns to them for friendship is of them. Verily Allah guideth not the unjust."

And Sura 3, verse 28 introduces the doctrine of *taqiyya*, which holds that Muslims should not be friends with the infidel *except as deception*, always with the end goal of converting, subduing, or destroying him.

It is often said that to point out these verses is to cherry pick unfairly the most violent parts of the Koran. In response, I assert that we must try to understand Muslims as they understand themselves. So I am not painting a picture here of the average American Muslim. I am trying to understand those Muslims, both here in the U.S. and abroad, who actively seek the destruction of America.

Here at home, the threat is posed by the Muslim Brotherhood and its organizational arms, such as the Council on American Islamic Relations, the Islamic Society of North America,

and the various Muslim student associations. These groups seek to persuade Americans that Islam is a religion of peace. But let me quote from a Muslim Brotherhood Strategic Memorandum on North American Affairs obtained during the 2007 Holy Land Trial investigating terrorist funding. It speaks of "Enablement of Islam in North America, meaning: establishing an effective and a stable Islamic Movement led by the Muslim Brotherhood which adopts Muslims' causes domestically and globally, and which...presents Islam as a civilization alternative, and supports the global Islamic State wherever it is...."

"The process of settlement is a "Civilization-Jihadist Process" with all the means. The *Ikhwan* [the Muslim Brotherhood] must understand that their work in America is a kind of grand Jihad in eliminating and destroying the Western Civilization from within and sabotaging its miserable house by their hands and the hands of the believers so that it is eliminated and Allah's religion is made victorious over all other religions."

President Obama in his Cairo speech two years ago put the number of Muslims in the U.S. at seven million. A Pew Research Center survey in 2007 found that eight percent of American Muslims said they believed that suicide bombing can sometimes be justified in defense of Islam. Among American Muslims 18-29 years old, 15 percent agreed with that and 60 percent said they thought of themselves as Muslim first and Americans second. Five percent of all participants in the survey said they had a favorable view of al Qaeda.

Given these numbers, it is not unreasonable to suggest that the political aims and ideology of the Muslim Brotherhood represent a domestic threat to national security.

And as dangerous as it potentially is, this domestic threat pales in comparison to the foreign threat from Iran and its allies.

-- Kennedy is co-author of the recent book *Shariah: The Threat to America*

Muslim-American terror down in 2010

By Emily Badger, Miller-McCune Report

The number of Muslim Americans involved in terrorist threats declined in 2010 from the previous year.

Nonetheless Rep. Peter King (R-NY) is holding a hearing on "the extent of radicalization of the American Muslim community, partly as a response, he says, to the lack of cooperation some law enforcement officials have complained of within the Muslim-American community. Civil liberties groups and Muslim leaders, meanwhile, are decrying what looks like the singling-out of a minority group in a congressional setting that recalls McCarthyism.

As justification, King has cited a statistic that 80 percent of mosques in America are controlled by radical imams. That figure turns out not to be based on fact. But here is some relevant data that is:

The number of Muslim-Americans engaged in terrorist acts aimed at the U.S. declined in 2010 from 18 to 10. Including domestic and international targets, the figure dropped from 47 to 20 (2009 was an anomalous year thanks to 17 Somali-Americans who joined a terrorist group in Somalia).

"One of the things that is interesting to me is how that drop is invisible in the public debate about the Muslim-American terrorist threat," said Charles Kurzman, a sociology professor at the University of North Carolina who has a book to be released this summer, *The Missing Martyrs: Why There Are So Few Muslim Terrorists*.

"News services sift through all of the violence and find hints of Islamic terrorist intention," Kurzman said. "The result is we end up with a skewed perception of the prevalence of Islamic terrorism."

In total, he says, 11 Muslim-American terrorists are responsible for killing 33 people since Sept. 11. Per capita, Muslim Americans are more likely to engage in terrorism than the general population, but the threat is miniscule in the context of the more than 15,000 homicides that occur in the U.S. each year. (Looked at another way: Muslim Americans are also not exclusively responsible for terrorism,

domestically or internationally.)

Another statistic Kurzman documents: The single largest source of initial information used to foil Muslim-American terrorist plots has been the Muslim-American community itself (in 48 of 120 suspected terrorists since Sept. 11). That figure does not include tips delivered by terrorism suspects under questioning. And it's greater than the number of tips (43) that have been generated by U.S. government investigations.

Kurzman doesn't think every Muslim-American community reports every suspicion, whether because individuals are hesitant to become involved or fear for their own immigration status.

"Virtually every Muslim-American leader has spoken out repeatedly against terrorism," Kurzman said.

So what would a more accurate — and useful — congressional hearing on the topic look like?

"You'd have examples of law enforcement agencies and Muslim community leaders describing best practices and cooperation against terrorism," Kurzman said.

It might help, Kurzman suggests, if we thought about terrorism in the way we think about public health problems like swine flu or SARS. We adjust the resources aimed at those challenges according to the prevalence of the problem, and we don't pour all our efforts and money at any single threat.

"I'm hoping that these hearings will not do too much damage to our nation's self-image as a place where people of all faiths are treated equally and fairly." -- March 9, 2011

Miller-McCune is a nonprofit magazine harnessing hard data and breaking research to support journalism that focuses on finding solutions to social problems. Miller-McCune rejects any overriding ideology, believing that the best answers can come from anywhere.

The fate of common law courts, a Valentine salute to patriot Susan Mokdad

David Andrews talks like the King of Patriot Myth Mongering, but some of what he says has profound merit, in my opinion. He certainly has had a lot of experience in the so-called sovereignty movement. He seems to have escaped the prison fate of his associates only through exile from Florida to another state.

Thus, I pass on his email to me

for your records. He mentions the Valentine Day death of one of his comrades below. He cannot possibly tell you of the massive suffering in many families as a result of the effort of well-meaning Floridians (and other Americans) to find a way around the corruption of state courts.

In the early 1990's Florida officials lowered the boom on the Common Law Court movement centered in Tampa. They imprisoned all of the leaders in kangaroo court proceedings, and most died in prison, all but David Andrews whom they exiled.

His words bring life to the concept of the sovereign power of the people and their inalienable, indefeasible right to replace bad government with good government any time they wish by any means they deem expedient. The words also bring light to the fate of those who try. Government will kill you for trying to replace it through force of arms, and imprison you for trying it peaceably.

And as John Dunne would certainly say, "Never send to know for whom the bell tolls; it tolls for thee."

Bob Hurt, Clearwater, Florida

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In memory of the great patriot, Susan Mokdad

By Sir David-Andrew

It has been eight years since Susan Mokdad was MURDERED by her captors at Coleman Prison on Valentine's Day 2003 shortly before she was to be released. Susan and her father, Emilio Ippolito, founded Pro Se Litigant of Tampa Bay back in 1989, group of about thirty concerned people, who had been shafted by government. The group became Pro Se Litigant of Florida in 1991, growing to over three hundred members. In 1993, they started Pro Se Litigant of America, which grew in membership to over 10,000 members throughout the Country, having member in every state of the Union.

In 1994, Susan and Emilio founded the Common Law Courts. The bureaucrats hated this movement even greater than they hated the Pro Se Litigates. Clamor from black robed devil across the country came by the first of 1996, that this group needed to be exterminated. The Clintonistas were more than glad to around up over 1200 members these two groups across the country, imprisoning without cause or just out right murdering many under pretense of being for the good of the country. Strange, today we live in the land of slave and home of the fee.

Great legal brief were often

In the beginning of change the patriot is a scarce man, brave, hated and scorned. When his cause succeeds, however, the timid join him, for then it costs nothing to be a patriot. — Mark Twain

cranked out in early 90s by Susan Mokdad, Dan Schramek, John-Alden: Fairborne (died suddenly Thanksgiving Day 2005, age 63), Rusty Hawn, Homer Boower, Mike McQuin, (Homer and Mike are MIA) Marty Franz (died in prison without ever being tried), Larry Moore and yours truly. Though, from time to time some other great folks would pitch in with the writing, organizing or research

Emilio Ippolito spent hours researching law, code, statutes, regulations and case law. His research and efforts went into many a brief or petition. There many others, sad to say I have forgotten there names, and their names should be written down in history for the sacrifices that they made. Other researchers, who I remember, were Bill Biermann (dead), Jane Rock (dead), Peter Rock, Hal Coates, a lady named Simpson (dead), Carolyn Wiseman, a lady named Thelma, Yahuda Rechtman, Terry Busby, Bob Blanchard and Lonnie Korbes.

Thelma taught me how to play one law against the other. The Babylon whores have made so many laws that their laws tended to contradict each other. If you want to have some fun then box a black robed devil between two conflicting laws. Because at that point he is DAMNED if he does and DAMNED if he don't! Thelma ran him down a bunny trail and he fell down a hole and could not get out. What she did was illegal, but there was nothing the BRD could do about, without become party himself to even a more serious crime. He challenged her for her wrong doing, but all of a sudden he realized that she had just set him up and he became silent, glaring at her. The day that Thelma boxed that BRD in the courtroom I almost died laughing.

Emilio survived eleven years of captivity, being released from prison at 82 years of age He lives with his wife Wilma in Tampa. While imprison bureaucrats stole over two and half million dollars worth of real estate from him; stealing his and his wife's retirement, leaving them with social insecurity. They have a website by which they may be reached. www.burythehatchetgiftcoffins.com

If you would like to read more about the history of Pro Se Litigants please go to my website and scroll part way down to article on The Pro Se Litigants. <http://sirdavidandrew.com>

The Florida Republics, Republic of Texas and the Kingdom of Hawaii arose from the Pro Se Litigants. These gave notice of succession from the Union in 1996, with Georgia and South Carolina preparing to follow suit.

If wish to learn more about these sovereign Nations, please go to <http://militias.info> and scroll to bottom of that page. This is history the bureaucRATS wish they dumb sheople forget or never hear.

Most people today have forgotten or never have heard of The Pilot Connect, which was founded by Phillip Marsh. He and Susan were convicted of conspiring against black robed devils and their legal racket. Phillip to was MURDER in Coleman Prison. Like Emilio Ippolito the bureaucRATS took everything Phillip had and they buried him in BOOT HILL, a pauper's grave. Phillip was one of the most hated by the IRS.

First Lady Now Requires 26 Servants

By Dr. Paul L. Williams
We were wrong.

Michelle Obama, as we reported on July 7, is not served by twenty-two attendants who cater to her every whim.

She is served by twenty-six attendants, including a hair dresser and make-up artist.

The annual cost to taxpayers is approximately \$1,750,000 without taking into account the expense of the lavish benefit packages afforded to every attendant, including the best paid listed below:

1. \$172,2000 - Sher, Susan (Chief Of Staff)
2. \$140,000 - Frye, Jocelyn C. (Deputy Assistant to the President and Director of Policy And Projects For The First Lady)
3. \$113,000 - Rogers, Desiree G. (Special Assistant to the President and White House Social Secretary)
4. \$102,000 - Johnston, Camille Y. (Special Assistant to the President and Director of Communications for the First Lady)
5. \$102,000 - Winter, Melissa E. (Special Assistant to the President and Deputy Chief Of Staff to the First Lady)

The salaries of her other minions range from \$90,000 to \$36,000.

Laura Bush, like her husband, served to bloat the White House budget. Mrs. Bush had 15 staff attendants, costing a total of \$1,083,700.00. Laura was no piker when it came to spending. But Miz Michelle requires even more attendants at an extra cost to taxpayers of \$700,000 and change - - the only change American taxpayers can believe in.

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www.canadafreepress.com/index.php/article/13827 Aug. 17, 2009

New Jersey's revolutionary preachers

By Chuck Baldwin

It really wasn't that long ago. Still, the way America's clergymen act today one would think that preachers such as James Caldwell and Joab Houghton never existed. But they did exist; and without them, the United States of America would not exist.

James Caldwell was called "The Rebel High Priest" or "The Fighting Chaplain", who is most famous for the "Give 'em Watts!" story.

During the Springfield (New Jersey) engagement, the colonial militia ran out of wadding for their muskets. Caldwell galloped to the Presbyterian church, and returning with an armload of hymnals, threw them to the ground, and hollered, "Now, boys, give 'em Watts!" referring to the famous hymn writer, Isaac Watts, of course.

The British hated Caldwell so much, they murdered his wife, Hannah, in her own home, as she sat with her children on her bed. Later, a fellow American who had been bribed by the British to assassinate the preacher murdered Caldwell. Crown loyalists burned both his house and church. No less than three cities and two public schools in the State of New Jersey bear his name.

Joab Houghton was in the Hopewell (New Jersey) Baptist Meeting House at worship when he received word regarding the battles at Lexington and Concord. His great-grandson gives the following eloquent description of the way he treated the tidings: "Mounting the great stone block in front of the meeting-house, he beckoned the people to stop. Men and women paused to hear, curious to know what so unusual a sequel to the service of the day could mean. At the first words a silence, stern as death, fell over all. The Sabbath quiet of the hour and of the place was deepened into a terrible solemnity. He told them all the story of the cowardly murder at Lexington by the royal troops; the heroic vengeance following hard upon it; the retreat of Percy; the gathering of the children of the Pilgrims round the beleaguered hills of Boston; then pausing, and looking over the silent throng, he said slowly, 'Men of New Jersey, the red coats are murdering our brethren of New England! Who follows me to Boston?' And every man in that audience stepped out of line, and answered, 'I!' There was not a coward or a traitor in old Hopewell Baptist Meeting-House that day." (Cathcart, William. *Baptists and the American Revolution*.

Philadelphia: S.A. George, 1876, rev. 1976)

-- From Baldwin's column "In Praise of Caldwell, Clark, Houghton, And Muhlenberg" Feb. 17, 2011

When the police question your child

By Wendy McElroy

If they had known that their son's cooperation would be used as evidence against him, they would have hired a lawyer at the beginning and exercised their right to remain silent.

As it was, after a family in Arvada, Colorado, cooperated fully with the police, their 11-year-old son was arrested and led out of his home in handcuffs for having drawn stick figures, one with a gun, in school earlier that day.

Zero-tolerance laws and policies mean that an increasing number of children are arrested for minor offenses that would have formerly merited a school suspension or some other slap on the wrist. The boy in Arvada had been diagnosed with attention deficit disorder; his therapist told him to draw pictures whenever he felt unwelcome emotions. Accordingly, upset at his mother for forcing him to attend school, he drew himself holding a gun pointed at other stick figures and scrawled the words "teacher must die." Feeling calmer, he threw the drawing in the trash from where a teacher retrieved it. Some hours later the boy was in police custody.

Some statistics provide an indication of the breadth and depth of the problem:

From 2001 to 2007, out of 33 million 10-to-17-years-olds, 2.2 million on average were arrested each year. Over 2,200 minors nationwide are currently serving life sentences as adults without possibility of parole.

So what should you do if the police wish to question your child?

First, do not expect authorities to respect your parental rights. The mother of the Arvada boy begged the police to allow her to accompany her son to the station when he was arrested; they refused. Your cooperation with police will probably not be reciprocated. Your child does have rights but do not expect to be informed of them

Second: If possible, record the encounter. It is generally legal to record conversations in your own home. In any case, write down the names and badge numbers of attending officers; politely ask for the contact information for their immediate supervisor.

Third: Before letting the police through the front door, ask to see a warrant or court order. Under some circumstances, the police can forcibly enter your home without such documents but those circumstances are legally few. Even if you are threatened with arrest, stand your ground; demand the warrant. Once an officer is allowed to enter, he has the advantage. In some states he can immediately conduct a weapons search to ensure his own safety. In all states he can unofficially survey your home for clues to lifestyle or possible violations of law.

Fourth: If an officer pushes in, do not resist. Doing so opens you to charges of obstructing justice or assaulting an officer. Passively refuse to cooperate and call a lawyer

Fifth: Whatever an officer says, you are not compelled to bring your children in for an interview or to allow any questioning without a court order. Nor are you required to speak to authorities. The seemingly harmless information you provide can be used against your child. State simply and as often as necessary, "I have nothing to say."

Sixth: Require the officers to state the nature of the complaint, including the number of the state statute or local ordinance your child is alleged to have violated. Have a copy of your state's laws on hand, much as you might have a phone book or dictionary.

If the Arvada parents had known to follow those rules, their son probably would not be on probation with a criminal record. He would not be a criminal for being a boy. <http://www.thefreemanonline.org/headline/police-question-child/> Mar. 1, 2011

Islamic leader: "Deceive your enemy"

The Muslim Brotherhood seems to be trying to preserve its recently burnished image as a moderate party dedicated to maintaining a modern, secular, and just Egypt.

In keeping with this, the Brotherhood has removed its bylaws from its English-language website, the Investigative Project on Terrorism has learned.

The bylaws have long been a source of debate because of the group's stated intention to create an Islamic state, uniting Muslims around the world, while "building a new basis of human civilization." Selected sections read as follows:

* "E – The need to work on establishing the Islamic State, which seeks to

effectively implement the provisions of Islam and its teachings. Defend the nation against the internal enemies, try to present the true teachings of Islam and communicate its ideas to the world.

* G – The sincere support for a global cooperation in accordance with the provisions of the Islamic Sharia, which would safeguard the personal rights, freedom of speech for active and constructive participation towards building a new basis of human civilization as is ensured by the overall teachings of Islam."

The group's unambiguous calls for re-establishing the Islamic Khalifa have fueled distrust as to its true intentions.

It's not clear why the bylaws disappeared, but the timing is highly suspicious, vanishing from public view within days of President Hosni Mubarak's ouster.

Press reports of the Brotherhood's role during the uprising paint a picture of a group committed to presenting its most appealing side. While the organization is not a monolith, its old guard remains entrenched in power. And those voices still advocate the Islamification of society.

For example, in a sermon last September, General Guide Mohamed Badie said Muslims are duty-bound to make the Quran the law of Egypt.

In an episode of PBS' Frontline that aired earlier this week, a young Brotherhood leader is seen advising an enthusiastic fellow Brother participating in the Egyptian protests to put away the Qur'an he was holding up, and to tone down his religious rhetoric: "Don't hold up the Qur'an," the young Brotherhood leader said. "We should be holding up Egyptian flags. Open it...but not for the media."

When asked by the reporter if the leader wanted the Quran-holding brother out of the square, he replied, "we don't want him out. We want him don't [sic.] show the ideology on the press because it's so bad for this revolution."

It's not the first time Brotherhood members acknowledged the need to conceal the group's agenda. Speaking privately, but under FBI surveillance, activists in the American branch of the Muslim Brotherhood discussed the need to invoke deception in the wake of U.S.-brokered peace talks between Israelis and Palestinians in 1993. The problem with the Oslo Accords, they agreed, was that the deal empowered the secular Fatah movement at the

expense of the Islamist Hamas, a Brotherhood offshoot.

The problem, they agreed, was that they couldn't just come out and say it.

"I swear by your God that war is deception," then-Holy Land Foundation President Shukri Abu Baker tells Council on American-Islamic Relations co-founder Omar Ahmad. "War is deception. We are fighting our enemy with a kind heart and we never thought of deceiving it. War is deception. Deceive, camouflage, pretend that you're leaving while you're walking that way...Deceive your enemy."

Now, it seems, the Brotherhood sees its written bylaws as something they don't want to read by the English-speaking world. As the IPT has previously reported, the Brotherhood's public language muddies the waters as to what the group is truly about. This apparent strategy to appear moderate and secular is one that is held from the Brotherhood's senior leadership all the way down to their men on the street.

--IPT News - February 28, 2011

Muslim Brotherhood's Motto

"God is our objective, the Koran is our constitution, the Prophet is our leader, jihad is our way, and death for the sake of God is our highest aspiration."

Wisconsin sheriff refuses role of "palace guardsman"; State Police accepts

No one has worked harder to keep the peace in Madison, Wisconsin during the dispute over Governor Scott Walker's attempt to crush public employee unions than Dane County Sheriff Dave Mahoney.

Sheriff Mahoney has worked long hours to help coordinate the response of various law-enforcement agencies to demonstrations that have attracted over 100,000 people, round-the-clock sleep-ins and sit-ins at the state Capitol and even clashing rallies between a small Tea Party contingent and a very large union crowd.

There has been no serious violence, no serious destruction and no serious arrests.

But Sheriff Mahoney's determination to preserve the peace, protect demonstrators and officials and respect basic liberties has earned him the scorn of those who are calling for an aggressive crackdown on dissent.

As the governor and his aides have attempted to limit access to the

state Capitol—which the Wisconsin constitution says must remain open to all citizens—Sheriff Mahoney has steadily argued that he and his deputies are present both to maintain public safety and to defend the right of citizens to assemble and petition for the redress of grievances.

The sheriff objected when Dane County deputies were told the doors of the Capitol would not be opened. Finally, he pulled his officers from the scene.

"When asked to stand guard at the doors that duty was turned over to the Wisconsin State Patrol because our deputies would not stand and be palace guards," said Sheriff Mahoney. "I refused to put deputy sheriffs in a position to be palace guards."

The sheriff has reflected again and again on the importance of respecting the Constitution and maintaining a free and open space for honest debate and dissent.

The crowds have been noisy and passionate, he said, as might be expected when issues of such consequence are at stake. But they have also been responsible and respectful. "They've helped law-enforcement agencies to keep the peace, and we have helped to assure that they can exercise their First Amendment rights," the sheriff explains.

"We're an example to the world about how to run a democracy," said Sheriff Mahoney, with clear pride in his voice.

The sheriff was right. Unfortunately, Governor Walker appears to have forgotten that a democratic state respects the rule of law, not the mandates of the monarch.

So the sheriff is not going to lead a palace guard.

Instead, he will guard the Constitution that so many praise but far too few defend.

-- www.readersupportednews.org John Nichols' blog March 2, 2011

Ed.: So the sheriff upheld the people's First Amendment rights. Good for him, that's what he swore to do when he took his oath of office. However the Wisconsin state police violated their oath and ejected the peaceful protesters from the state capitol. Unfortunately it seems state police have a tendency to simply follow orders. In Arkansas the state police reportedly kept watch during trysts at the governor's mansion lest Hillary show up. And here in the Garden State the NJSP conveyed Governor McGreevey to rendezvous with his Israeli boyfriend. As reported in our February issue, the Maryland SP say

the Second Amendment is not a sufficient reason to issue a gun permit.

If ordered to seize our guns, would state police comply? In New Jersey we think we know the answer, and it doesn't look good for other states either.

A rabbi's letter to Mayor Bloomberg

I am an Orthodox rabbi who lives in New Jersey but works in New York City. Approximately half of my waking life is lived under your laws. Therefore I have the right, even the obligation, to confront so-called "gun control".

"Gun control", this innocuous-sounding phrase that sounds like common sense, is in reality a dangerous bit of semantic trickery.

"Gun control" actually means putting the authority to decide who has the right to defend him or herself with a firearm into the hands of a government bureaucrat.

"Gun control" is actually "victim disarmament". Because the person with the gun will always control the person without the gun. Without the personal firearm as an "equalizer", the stronger will always control the weaker. (Please see the "Genocide Chart" at www.jfpo.org)

Mr. Bloomberg, our Jewish tradition tells us that righteous self-defense is not only permissible but an obligation: "If a murderer comes for you, strike him down first." (Talmud Sanhedrin 72a)

In New York City, hand guns are illegal for all practical purposes, yet criminal predators acquire them nonetheless. How do you expect civilians to defend themselves if we cannot use the most practical tool at our disposal -- the handgun? You tell us to "Dial 911"? (See ["Dial 911 and Die"](#))

I -- along with millions of others -- are on your "disarmed" list. Mr. Mayor, this is not only immoral, it goes against the fundamental precepts of Judaism that you and I both honor.

The Torah teaches: "Do not stand idly by the blood of your neighbor." (Leviticus 19:16), which Rashi explains means that one who is able to help another escape harm and fails to do so is held culpable in the Heavenly Court. Jews are commanded by G-d to value all human life. How can you, a religiously committed Jew, say you truly value human life when you advocate laws that leave millions completely defenseless.

Mr. Mayor, your citizen disarmament is hypocrisy. You are

surrounded by police and your personal private bodyguards. Is your life worth more than the lives of your fellow citizens? Or are we mere "subjects" in your eyes?

Additionally, you are no doubt aware that the Jewish people have been at the wrong end of the gun barrel for far too long. And you would strip us of the right to defend ourselves? With all due respect, Mr. Mayor, this is shameful.

Mayor Bloomberg, are you aware that Nazi gun laws disarmed Jews? Are you aware that Senator Thomas Dodd incorporated language from these Nazi gun control laws into the Gun Control Act of 1968? How can it be that you, a Jew, are enforcing Nazi-inspired laws? (See "Gateway to Tyranny")

Tyrants like Lenin, Hitler, Stalin, and Mao "pioneered" the bloody trail of "gun control" in the 20th Century. Why do you so thoughtlessly, in effect, mimic the insidious actions of these monsters?

Mr. Mayor, do you need a rabbi to tell you that your actions are wrong and immoral?

This nation's Bill of Rights is a sacrosanct public trust. You are a public servant. You swore an oath to uphold the Constitution. As you blatantly disregard the Second Amendment, the actual "Guardian" of all the rest of the Bill of Rights, I must ask you: Did you knowingly lie when you took your oath of office?

Sincerely,

Rabbi Dovid Bendory

Rabbinic Director

Jews for the Preservation of Firearms Ownership (<http://jpfo.org>), Mar. 4, 2011

A World without Guns

By D. Kopel, P. Gallant & J. Eisen

"Imagine the world without guns" was a bumper sticker making the rounds after the murder of ex-Beatle John Lennon in 1980. Lennon's widow, Yoko Ono, followed up by becoming a spokeswoman for Handgun Control, Inc. (later the Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence, previously named the National Council to Control Handguns).

So let's try to imagine what a world without guns would look like. But

be forewarned: It's not a pretty picture.

We can begin by imagining laws which ban all non-government possession of firearms

Take, for example, the 1911 Sullivan Law, which imposed an exceedingly restrictive handgun-licensing scheme on New York City.

Laws affect mainly those willing to obey them. But where there's an unfulfilled need there's usually a way around the law, namely the black market. NYC mayor Mike Bloomberg said that "in 1993, there were as many as 2 million illegal guns on the street," insinuating that all those guns were in the hands of criminals, and that confiscating the guns would make the city a safer place. But Bloomberg never explained how he planned to shut down the black market.

So let's imagine, instead, a nationwide gun ban, or maybe even a worldwide ban.

Then again, heroin and cocaine have been illegal here, and throughout most of the world, for nearly a century. Yet they are readily available, here, and at prices lower than in previous decades.

Maybe the harshest penalty will give the law real teeth: mandatory life in prison for possession of a gun, or even a single bullet. (We won't imagine the death penalty, since the Yoko crowd doesn't approve.)

Jamaica's Gun Court Act of 1974 contained just such a penalty. Yet on August 18, 2001, Jamaican Melville Cooke observed that, "the only people who do not have an illegal firearm [in this country], are those who do not want one." Violent crime in Jamaica is worse than ever, as gangsters and trigger-happy police commit homicides with impunity, and only the law-abiding are disarmed.

Still in July 2001, Burchell Whiteman, Jamaica's Minister of Education, Youth and Culture demanded at the U.N. Disarmament Conference the "implementation of measures that would limit the production of weapons to levels that meet the needs for defence and national security."

The one society in history that

successfully gave up firearms was Japan in the 17th century, as detailed by Noel Perrin's in *Giving Up the Gun: Japan's Reversion to the Sword 1543-1879*. An isolated island with a totalitarian dictatorship, Japan was able to get rid of the guns. Historian Stephen Turnbull summarizes the result: [The dictator] Hidéyoshi's resources were such that the edict was carried out to the letter. The growing social mobility of peasants was thus flung suddenly into reverse. The *ikki*, the warrior-monks, became figures of the past . . . Hidéyoshi had deprived the peasants of their weapons. Iéyasu [the next ruler] now began to deprive them of their self-respect. If a peasant offended a samurai he might be cut down on the spot by the samurai's sword. [*The Samurai: A Military History* (New York: Macmillan, 1977)]

The inferior status of the peasantry having been affirmed by civil disarmament, the Samurai enjoyed *kiri-sute gomen*, permission to kill and depart. Any disrespectful member of the lower class could be executed by a Samurai. The Japanese disarmament laws helped mold the culture of submission to authority which facilitated Japan's domination by an imperialist military dictatorship in the 1930s, which led the nation into a disastrous world war.

In short, the one country that created a truly gun-free society created a society of harsh class oppression, in which the strongmen of the upper class could kill the lower classes with impunity. When a racist, militarist, imperialist government took power, there was no effective means of resistance. The gun-free world of Japan turned into just the opposite of the gentle, egalitarian utopia of John Lennon's song "Imagine." Instead of imagining a world without a particular technology, what about imagining a world in which the human heart grows gentler, and people treat each other decently, the vision of many of the world's great religions?

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